

Correspondence [From WM. B. Street]

Wm. B. Street

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THE BOSTON MASSACRE.

Not long ago there was considerable inquiry in Charles City, by certain of our citizens, regarding what is termed "The Boston Massacre." Mr. A. B. F. Hildreth, who has just returned from Boston, and who is somewhat of an antiquarian, informs us that to commemorate this event a beautiful monument of Vermont granite has recently been erected on Boston Common. The massacre took place in King street, now State street, March 5, 1770, and was committed by British troops stationed there to hold in subjection the disaffected colonists. On the monument are the names of those who were killed, as follows:

Crispus Attucks, Samuel Maverick, James Caldwell, Samuel Gray, Patrick Carr.

On the reverse side is the following: "Erected in 1888 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in honor of those who fell at the Boston Massacre."

Below the names of the killed is a life size figure of a soldier in bronze, holding in one hand a flag and in the other a broken chain. By its side is an eagle with wide spread wings, bearing a floral wreath.

An embossed plate beneath the eagle represents the victims, and the British soldiers, with guns pointed, shooting them. It also gives a full view of the old State House at the rear of the men, and which is still standing at the head of State street. Just above this view are the following quotations:

"We may date the severance of the British Empire."—Daniel Webster.

"The foundation of American Independence was laid."—John Adams.—

Charles City Intelligencer, October 20, 1896.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ORMOND, FLORIDA, FEBRUARY 8, 1897.

In the January ANNALS I notice the remarks in relation to Jefferson Davis and the Black Hawk war, and having personal knowledge of the facts, I can say that he was in the war.

I first knew Mr. Davis about 1829 as a Lieutenant in Co. F, 1st Regiment U. S. Infantry, Zachary Taylor, Colonel. In 1832 Col. Taylor with his Regiment joined Gen. Atkinson at Rock Island, and marched with him in pursuit of Black Hawk to Bad Axe on the Mississippi, thence to Ft. Crawford where the Regiment was stationed. Mr. Davis was with the Regiment during the whole campaign.

When Black Hawk was taken by the Winnebagoes and delivered to General Street, he turned him over to Colonel Taylor, who kept him and some 40 other prisoners, until General Scott ordered him to Rock Island with the prisoners and a deputation of Winnebagoes, and ordered Colonel Taylor to furnish a military escort. This escort was commanded by Lieutenant Davis. General Street ordered the hand-cuffs to be removed from Black Hawk and this was done under direction of Mr. Davis. When General Street with the other prisoners and the Winnebagoes were landed at Rock Island, General Scott ordered Lieutenant Davis to take Black Hawk and the Prophet to Jefferson Barracks.

Yours truly,

WM. B. STREET.

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